

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1-11 (Canceled).

12. (Currently Amended) Surgical reamer comprising at least four flat blades assembled together by means of slots in said blades, ~~said reamer~~ each blade having a longitudinal axis of symmetry that is coincident with an axis of rotation of the reamer, and further wherein at least one of the slots and/or sections of said slot or slots has a different width from that of at least one other slot and/or section of a slot.

13. (Previously Presented) Reamer according to claim 12, wherein the first of said four blades has at least one first slot which runs from the lower edge of the blade, the second of said four blades having at least one second slot running from the top of the blade, each of said first and second slots having, at least in one section, a width corresponding to the thickness of the blade which is fitted into the other slot, the third blade of said four blades has at least one upper third slot running from the top of said third blade and at least one lower third slot running from the lower edge of said third blade, the width of said upper slot being greater than the width of said lower slot, and the fourth blade of said four blades has at least one fourth slot running from the top of said blade, said fourth slot comprising at least one outer section and one inner section, the width of said outer section being greater than the width of said inner section, the width of the lower third slot of the third blade corresponding to the thickness of the fourth blade, the width of the inner section of the fourth slot of the fourth blade corresponding to the thickness of the third blade, and the width of the upper third slot of the third blade and the outer section of the fourth blade being the same and such that, once fitted together, the first two blades can be inserted into said upper third slot of the third blade and into the outer section of the fourth blade, said third and fourth blades being themselves fitted together.

14. (Previously Presented) Reamer according to claim 12, wherein the first slot of a

first one of said blades has at least an outer and an inner section, the outer section being wider than the inner section.

15. (Previously Presented) Reamer according to claim 12, wherein a second one of said blades has at least one lower slot running from its lower edge, said lower slot being wider than the second slot.

16. (Previously Presented) Reamer according to claim 12, comprising at least one rigidifying element adapted to encircle and hold together the four blades.

17. (Previously Presented) Reamer according to claim 16, wherein the rigidifying element comprises a cylindrical bushing.

18. (Previously Presented) Reamer according to claim 16, wherein the rigidifying element comprises a flat ring with notches into which the blades are inserted.

19. (Previously Presented) Blade for a reamer according to claim 12, comprising at least one slot having sections of different widths.

20. (Previously Presented) Blade according to claim 19, wherein said at least one slot comprises an upper slot running from the top of a cutting part of the blade and a lower slot running from the lower edge of the blade, the width of the upper slot being different from the width of the lower slot.

21. (Previously Presented) Blade according to claim 20, wherein one of said upper or lower slots comprises at least one outer section and one inner section, the width of the outer section being greater than the width of the inner section.

22. (Previously Presented) Blade according to claim 19, comprising at least one slot wherein the longitudinal axis of symmetry is coincident with the axis of rotation of the reamer, a rounded cutting part, and a lower part which is narrower than the cutting part.